

## Post Shorts

### Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Dec. 28 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Holiday gate hours

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Christmas and New Years holidays.

On Dec. 22, the Harford Gate, Route 22, in Aberdeen North will close at 10 p.m. and the Wise Road Gate in Aberdeen South will close at 8 p.m. Both gates will reopen for normal vehicle traffic 4 a.m., Dec. 26.

Additionally, on Dec. 29, the Route 22 will close at 10 p.m., and the Wise Road Gate will close at 8 p.m. Both gates will reopen for normal vehicle traffic 4 a.m., Jan. 2.

The Maryland Gate in Aberdeen North and the Route 24 Gate in Aberdeen South will be open throughout the holiday weekends.

The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security extends to the Aberdeen Proving Ground community best wishes for a joyous and safe holiday season.

### Santa to visit Dec. 23

Santa Claus, accompanied by U.S. Army Garrison commander Col. John T. Wright, will visit Aberdeen North neighborhoods 5 p.m., Dec. 23. Families can gather at the end of each court to meet Santa and Wright. Residents living in Hopkins Loop can meet at the beginning of the housing area.

### Holiday shuttle service

The daily shuttle service to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, National Naval Medical Center and to the Aberdeen South will not be available Dec. 17 to Jan. 3.

### KUSAHC closed for training day

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed Dec. 26 for a training holiday.

### Top of Bay closed through holidays

Top of the Bay will be closed through Jan. 2.

The staff wishes to thank everyone for their support throughout the

See SHORTS, page 8

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

### Page 2

Safety: Staying safe, secure over the holidays

### Pages 3-5

Holiday community support articles

### Page 6

IRS offers tips for year-end

### Page 8

Community Notes

### Page 10

MWR

### Page 14

42-year old recruit follows dream

### Page 15

ASAP addresses holiday drinking

## NECPOC Eye on the Soldier program celebrates military

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

With the theme 'Celebration of the Soldier,' the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center hosted its fourth annual Eye on the Soldier program at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center Dec. 14.

The show featured the NECPOC cheerleaders and cheering squad, testimonials from the children of service members and a touching video of deployed Soldiers, all presented in a spirit of patriotism mixed with holiday cheer.

Special guests included former NECPOC director, Mike Vajda and military leaders from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

The program opened with the Soldiers of Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion marching in to holiday cadence led by Drill Sgt. Antonio Owens. Col. Bobby Towery and Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Slater of the 61st Ordnance Brigade; Lt. Col. Karen Jordan and Command Sgt. Maj. William Hart of the 16th Ordnance Battalion were the military guests.

Company C, 16th commander Capt. Greg Montgomery was the guest speaker and the program's announcer was CeCe Perkins, a NECPOC human resources assistant.

Leslie McGlothlin, NECPOC director, gave opening remarks, reminding listeners that 'Eye on the Soldier' means "We are serving the Soldier yesterday, today and tomorrow."



Children line up on stage to spell the word 'celebrate' and tell which Soldier they are proud of and why during the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operation Center's Eye on the Soldier program at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center Dec. 14.

"Our overarching mission is to provide support to the Soldier and our Army," McGlothlin said. "We keep our eye on the Soldier more than on ourselves."

Adding his remarks, Montgomery thanked the NECPOC for inviting his unit and for "taking time out to pay tribute to our Soldiers here today as well as those serving around the world."

He said that the difficulties of

deployment to the war zone are made easier by those who support the Warfighter and that while he was deployed last year, much of his support came through care packages from Branch B of the NECPOC where his wife, Tara Montgomery is employed.

"The support that I received from family and friends helped me go the extra mile," he said.

"Let's not forget about the Sailors,

Airmen, Marines, civilians and contractors also serving on the frontline today," he added. "On behalf of Colonel Towery and Lieutenant Colonel Jordan, we sincerely thank you for your continued support."

At that, Montgomery's Soldiers stood up and loudly recited the Soldier's Creed, after which they received a standing ovation.

See SOLDIER, page 14

## AFTB holds birthday celebration

ACS

December 16 was the 12th birthday of the Army Family Team Building Program. Throughout the Army, there were events commemorating AFTB's 12 years of contributions and support of the Army Family.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground AFTB program marked the occasion Dec. 13, at the APG Post Exchange with an information table, mementos and a raffle for AFTB collectables.

For over a decade, AFTB has enriched Army families through its classes and volunteer opportunities. Since its beginning in 1994, AFTB has taught more than 75,000 students [families and Soldiers] about the resources and skills that will aid them in becoming self-sufficient. Over the last 12 years, AFTB has impacted thousands of family members, civilians and Soldiers.

Army Family Team Building is a volunteer led program that offers classes about military life, resources and leadership skills. AFTB classes are taught by volunteer instructors in three levels. Classes are also offered online at [www.myarmylifetoo.com](http://www.myarmylifetoo.com)

including Level One and Two; in English or Spanish and Level Three in English.

Level One is considered to be "Army Life 101." Level One consists of 10 classes (11 classroom hours) that introduce the student to the basics of military life, including the chain of command, acronyms and expectations.

Level Two focuses on teaching life skills. The focus of Level 2 is students who are interested in gaining life skills and in becoming community leaders.

Level Three is developed for the person interested in developing leadership skills.

Volunteer instructors are trained with 20 hours of classroom instruction. The classes are taught by "Master Trainers" who have attended a DA sponsored 40-hour training program.

The APG AFTB Program is actively seeking volunteers and instructors for the program.

For more information or to volunteer, call Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service, 410-278-9669.



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB  
From left, Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign staff members Peter Leon-Guerrero, Nelder Smothers and Michael Graziano present Col. John T. Wright, Garrison and deputy installation commander, with a 'check' symbolizing the \$400,000 donated by APG employees during the 2006 campaign.

## CFC campaign closes at \$400,000

APG CFC Office

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign exceeded the \$400,000 mark with more than 2,286 donors contacted.

On Dec. 18, APG Garrison commander Col. John T. Wright officially closed out the campaign when he accepted a symbolic 'check' for \$400,000 from CFC administrators, Michael Graziano, chairman; Peter Leon-Guerrero, co-chairman and Nelder Smothers, administrative assistant, at the Garrison headquarters.

Wright praised the trio for exceeding the campaign headquarters goal of \$375,000.

"The thing is to stay focused on participation," Wright said. "I think \$400,000 is a good mark and it may go even higher next year."

Guerrero, who will lead the campaign next year, thanked Graziano for setting the standards.

"He mentored me and changed my outlook on working with the hearing impaired," Guerrero said. "He set

examples and standards that will be a tough act to follow, and I want to do the same thing next year. He showed me that teamwork is key along with staying committed and goal-focused."

The CFC campaign final raffle was held Dec. 11. The winners included Gregory Smith, 22nd Chemical Battalion, 1st place; Tam Nguyen, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, 2nd place; Kevin Armstrong, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Staff Sgt. Albert Lockhart, and Jose Barera, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, 3rd place; and Pickey Alson, 16th Ordnance Battalion; Jane Larkin, RDECOM; and Shawn Baker, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, 4th place. A special drawing for an etched CFC hourglass went to Ray A. Iglesias, 16th Ordnance Battalion.

For more information about the Combined Federal Campaign, call the CFC of Central Maryland, 410-895-1499 or visit Web site <http://www.cfccmd.org>.

## APG families invited to White House holiday party

MWR

Four families from Aberdeen Proving Ground received an extraordinary holiday invitation recently. They were invited by President and First Lady Bush to a Children's Holiday Reception at the White House.

The invitations were extended to children (ages 6 through 12) of service members who were deployed or had recently been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq) or Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan). Each child was invited to bring one parent.

Guests from APG included Daylin Armstead and his mother Tonya Armstead, Sidney Paulson and her father Sgt. 1st Class Richard Paul-

son, Caitlyn Wamack and her mother Ann Wamack, and Rachel Wilson and her mother Anne Wilson. Also included in the invitation were Rita Wilkins as a representative of the Northeast Region and Renee Main from the Edgewood Youth Center.

The day of the party, Dec. 4, started early for these APG families who met and boarded the bus at 6:15 a.m. outside the Aberdeen Youth Center. From there, the bus took the excited but sleepy children to Fort Myer Child Development Center. After checking in, the APG families were joined by other families from around the Northeast Region, including families from Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Fort Meade and other installations.

After the first of several protocol briefings, the families boarded two busses, and were taken from Arlington, Va., through the "VIP" entrance onto the grounds of the White House. The families received several more protocol briefings and security screenings before being allowed to enter the White House through the North Entrance.

Once inside, live piano music greeted the families as they were allowed to roam freely around the public areas of the White House. Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer were there to greet the children, and Santa greeted the invitees, seated before a magnificent Christmas tree in the Blue

See WHITE HOUSE, page 6



Photo by ANN WAMACK, MWR  
Willie Wonka takes a curtain call as First Lady Laura Bush applauds the performance.



Inspector Thomas Stanford, Fire and Emergency Services Division, demonstrates the results of throwing water on a grease fire at the Dec. 17 block party hosted by the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment. “You should never throw water on a grease fire,” Stanford said.

# Block party promotes holiday safety

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Firefighters and emergency medical technicians with the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment’s Fire and Emergency Services Division emphasized the importance of safety during the holidays with block parties for residents of the installation housing areas Nov. 17 and 18.

The parties featured gift tables filled with fire hats, coloring books, pot holders and flyers containing kitchen safety and safe cooking tips.

Fire Inspector Andre’ Fournier said the block party was intended to promote public awareness on kitchen safety, which is the number one cause of home fires.

“With the hustle and bustle of the holidays we tend to be in a hurry and we don’t stop to consider the safety aspects,” Fournier said. “We want to make people well aware of potential hazards and how to avoid them.”

Displays included a video on fire safety which showed how easily frying a turkey on an outdoor deck can result in an uncontrollable fire.

“The more people are informed, the fewer incidents, and the fewer incidents, the less we



Sparky makes friends with 2 year-old Liv Starling during the Fire and Emergency Services Division’s block party Nov. 17.

have to respond to,” added Fire Inspector Doug Farrington, noting that a kitchen fire occurred shortly after the Community Awareness Day Oct. 14.

“This means we’re not reaching everybody,” he said. “Our goal is to educate every-one one-hundred percent on kitchen fires.”

# Practicing kitchen fire safety

Story by  
**RON KRAVITZ**  
DSHE

More fires start in the kitchen than in any other part of the home, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Some kitchen fires begin with a pan of food left cooking, unattended on the stove. It overheats and flames spread from the pan to the kitchen cabinets and other combustibles until the entire room is burning. The NFPA says that home cooking fires kill hundreds of Americans and injure roughly 4,000 more each year. Aside from death and injury, other personal losses are suffered with half a billion dollars in homes and their contents destroyed annually.

Why is the kitchen such a danger zone? Too often people fail to pay attention to what’s cooking, and the consequences can be far worse than burned food. Cooking fires can spread quickly, leaving just minutes to escape safely.

### Tips for safer cooking

- Most fires in the kitchen occur because cooking is left unattended. Stay in the kitchen when frying, grilling or broiling food.
- If leaving the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If simmering, boiling, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer as a reminder the stove or oven is on.
- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of 3 feet (1 meter) around the stove.
- When young children are in the home, use the stove’s back burners whenever possible, and turn pot handles back to reduce the risk that pots with hot contents will be knocked over.
- Never hold a small child while cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — pot holders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from the stove top.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and stovetop.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing or dangling sleeves while cooking. Loose clothing can catch fire if it comes in contact with a gas flame or electric burner.

### Microwave cooking

- Plug the microwave oven directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a microwave as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- Use only microwave-safe containers to heat food.
- Allow food to cool for a minute or more before removing from the microwave.
- Open micro-waved containers slowly as hot steam escaping from the containers can cause painful burns. Be sure to let food and liquid cool a short time before eating.
- Never use aluminum foil or metal objects in a microwave oven unless the microwave is specifically designed to allow them. They can cause a fire or burn hazard and damage the oven.

### Putting out kitchen fires

While the following tips can help put out a small kitchen fire, never forget how dangerous

fire can be. If unable to put out the fire, get out of the home and call the fire department. “When in doubt, get out!”

- If there’s a fire in the microwave, turn it off immediately and keep the door closed. Never open the door until the fire is completely out. Unplug the appliance if the outlet can be safely reached.

- When cooking, always keep an oven mitt and a lid nearby. If a small grease fire starts in a pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan (make sure to wear the oven mitt). Turn off the burner. To keep the fire from restarting, do not remove the lid until the pan is completely cool.

- In case of an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. The oven could flash if opened causing severe burns and catch cloths on fire.

- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of an emergency. Make sure that it’s the right type for a kitchen and know how it works before an emergency occurs.

### Fire extinguishers

A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out a small fire or containing it until the fire department arrives, but portable extinguishers have limitations. Because fire grows and spreads so rapidly, the number one priority for residents is to get out safely.

- Use a portable fire extinguisher when the fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing; everyone has exited the building; the fire department has been called or is being called; and the room is not filled with smoke.
- To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word PASS:

**P**ull the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing towards the fire, and release the locking mechanism.

**A**im low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.

**S**queeze the lever slowly and evenly.

**S**weep the nozzle from side-to-side.

- For the home, select a multi-purpose extinguisher (can be used on all types of home fires) that is large enough to put out a small fire, but not so heavy as to be difficult to handle.

- Store the fire extinguisher at least six feet away from the stove.

- Choose a fire extinguisher that carries the label of an independent testing laboratory.

- Read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out. Local fire departments or fire equipment distributors often offer hands-on fire extinguisher trainings.

- Install fire extinguishers close to an exit and keep a clear exit behind when using the device so an easy escape is possible. If the fire cannot be controlled or if the room fills with smoke, leave immediately.

Know when to go. Fire extinguishers are one element of a fire response plan, but the primary element is safe escape. Every household should have a home fire escape plan and working smoke alarms.

# Holiday security at home, on the road

## Just a reminder, criminals also go shopping this time of year, but not in stores

DLES

Criminals love this time of the year as much as everyone else, but mainly because it is an opportune time for crime.

“This holiday season, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police would like to make sure you don’t let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work,” said Community Policing Officer Mike Farlow. “As many of us are making lists and checking them twice for our trips home to visit family and friends, criminals will be making a list of their own. We would like to give you a few helpful tips to make sure you do not end up on their list.”

### Securing the home before traveling

If traveling for the holidays prepare the home before leaving on a trip. Install an auto-

matic timer for the lights to give the impression someone is home. Ask a neighbor to watch the house, shovel snow, and possibly park in the driveway from time to time. Stop mail and newspaper delivery. If it piles up, it’s a sure sign no one is home and the house may become a target.

The APG Police provide a service to the community called “Operation House Watch.”

“All you have to do is come to the Police Station and complete a house watch form to be placed on a list of houses that officers will be checking throughout their shifts,” Farlow said.

### Local travel

If going out for the evening, turn on lights and a radio or television so it looks like someone is home. Be extra cautious and lock doors and



windows when leaving, even if just for a few minutes.

Don’t display gifts where they can be seen from outside

as this may entice criminals.

### Shopping

While shopping be sure to stay alert and be aware of what

is going on. Park in a well-lit space, and be sure to lock the vehicle. When returning to the vehicle, check the back seat before getting in and lock doors immediately.

Try not to get overburdened with large packages. Make several trips to the vehicle while shopping, and place the bags out of sight or secure them in the trunk.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, and pay by check or credit card when possible. Wallets should be placed in an inside coat pocket or front pants pocket, and purses should be carried close to the body to deter someone from snatching it.

If shopping with children make sure they know to go to a security guard or salesperson if they get separated and ask for help.

### Inventory of valuables

This is also a great time to update or create a home inventory.

“Many of you will be getting a lot of nice things this year, and we would like to make sure nothing happens to them,” Farlow said.

Photograph the items, document serial numbers, and mark each item with license numbers so it can be returned when recovered.

“Anyone with questions about this process can contact the Crime Prevention office at 410-273-6412 for assistance,” Farlow said.

“You are our eyes and ears, so if you see anything suspicious call the Police at once. The APG Police care about the community we serve and would like to wish each and every one of you a very safe and happy holiday season,” Farlow said.

# APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,800.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser,

user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@appg.army.mil.

Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

## Staff

APG Commander ..... Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau  
APG Garrison Commander ..... Col. John T. Wright  
Public Affairs Officer ..... George P. Mercer  
Editor ..... Debi Horne  
Editorial Assistant ..... Marguerite Towson  
Contract Photojournalists ..... Yvonne Johnson  
..... Heather Tassmer  
Graphic Designer/Web Designer ..... Nick Pentz  
Web site ..... www.apgnews.apg.army.mil.

# RDECOM toy drive still impacting community

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center and the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency continued the tradition of serving needy families during the holiday season with the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's 19th Annual Food and Toy Drive which concluded with a reception in the Berger Building cafeteria Dec. 13.

Hosted by longtime organizer Barbara Knapp, the program featured remarks by ECBC technical director Jim Zarzycki and representatives of programs benefiting from the drive.

Zarzycki praised Knapp as "the person who after all these years continues to be the champion for this activity."

"Everybody in the RDECOM community really takes this to heart," Zarzycki said. "I don't have much to say except thank you to everyone."

"All we have to do is ask and the different organizations and division and people just pour their hearts out," Knapp said. "It's amazing," she added, noting that the piles of donations that circled the room included toys, canned goods and toiletries for teens.

"Even the Boy Scouts contributed this year," she added.

Representing Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, RDECOM chief of staff, Col. Mark Grotke and Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar added their thanks to all contributors.

"On behalf of the commander, I want to express our appreciation for your efforts," Grotke said. "There truly are wonderful people and good neighbors here [at Aberdeen South]."

"I'm very proud of RDECOM," Alcivar said. "This is a great show of support for our community."

Recipients of the donated goods included Arcelio Alleyne, financial readiness



Photo by CONRAD JOHNSON, RDECOM  
*Piles of food and toys in the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center cafeteria await transportation to their recipients during the reception marking the end of the 19th annual Food and Toy Drive Dec. 13.*

program manager with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Community Service and Maryland State Troopers with the Police Activity League in Edgewood which supports children and youths in the

Edgewater subdivision.

TFC George Jackson and TFC Herbert Vass offered their thanks for the donations that they said helped 70 families last year.

"This will definitely help the Police Activity League which basically focuses on providing support and direction to neighborhood youths," Jackson said.

"People forget that there are a lot of good kids out there because they only hear about the bad ones," Vass added. "We have a lot of good kids in our program. Things like this are what keep the program going."

"RDECOM and CMA came through for us like they did last year," Alleyne said. "On

behalf of ACS Director Celestine Beckett, I want to thank you all."

He offered special thanks to Jean Salvatore, an ECBC acquisition logistics group leader and Toy Drive committee member who contacted Alleyne after reading the ACS ad requesting donations for 10 families in the APG News.

"We got the list and went out to the community and they responded pretty quickly," Salvatore said. "They provided most everything on the list, some sponsoring individuals or whole families."

"Thank you all for your dedication and commitment," Alleyne said. "Thank you all for your donations and hard work."



*Sgts. 1st Class Brandon Hutchinson, left, and Jeffery Litteral, both members of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, load a box of toys bound for the Army Community Service 'Giving Tree' program onto a truck Dec. 18.*

## Audie Murphy members support 'giving tree' program

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

A group of elite noncommissioned officers fulfilled a community service commitment to Aberdeen Proving Ground families when they collected and donated dozens of toys to Army Community Service Dec. 18.

Members of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, led by Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Litteral, an instructor with the Non-commissioned Officer Academy Warrior Training Center, made the donation of gift-wrapped presents after weeks of soliciting donations.

Several senior leaders looked on as the NCOs loaded the goods before transporting them to ACS. They included Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby; Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command; and OMMS Sgt. Maj. Chancey Alderman.

Litteral said the annual project was started four years ago by the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center, where his wife is an employee.

"This year we added the efforts of the

Noncommissioned Officer Academy and the Audie Murphy Club to what the Northeast CPOC was already doing," Litteral said, adding that donations came from Soldiers throughout "every major command," including RDECOM, DTC, the 61st Ordnance Brigade, the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) and the 22nd Chemical Battalion.

"This is a great program that we finally got up and running," Litteral said. "Now we're getting more people involved to do more for the community. It's just another example of NCOs standing together to make things happen."

Alcivar added that the toy drive was only one part of APG Soldiers' commitment to the community.

"In order to have a healthy and motivated community you have to have this type of activity with people willing to maintain that environment," Alcivar said. "Our SAMC members are high quality individuals who are proactive and professional. Throughout the year they will be an active participant in reaching out to the community and improving quality of life."

Along with Litteral, SAMC members included Sgts. 1st Class Brandon Hutchinson, Paul Blanco and Oral Grant from the 16th Ordnance Battalion and Sgt. 1st Class Kris Toman, 61st Ordnance Brigade.

# Northeast CPOC donates lap blankets to Walter Reed patients

Story by  
**HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

In an effort to help Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, employees with the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center's Branch F made 60 lap blankets which were delivered Dec. 8.

Kimberly Williams, a human resources tech and military spouse of 19 years, came up with the idea for making and delivering the blankets. She said she thought of the idea because her mother gave her a blanket. She looked up directions on how to make the blankets online.

Williams described the making of the blankets as a "team exercise" for Branch F. She said the branch completes team exercises four times a year.

She and the other members of the branch started making

the blankets in early November. The blankets were a variety of patterns and colors including "Popeye the Sailor" print.

"The entire goal is to have this idea snowball to the entire staff of CPOC," Williams said.

She wants the staff to continue helping Soldiers in need all year round.

"During Christmas we give and give but we forget about it the rest of the year," Williams said.

Laura Solloway, NECPOC branch chief for F, shared some feelings about helping Soldiers in need also.

"It feels like a small thing to do given what Soldiers do for everyone," Solloway said. "It was a token of our appreciation."

The donation also taught Williams some new lessons about Soldiers. When she delivered the blankets to the



Photo by TROY WEAVER, 143RD BATTALION

Kimberly Williams with the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center's Branch F, left, gives lap blankets to Red Cross station manager Terri O'Shiro Dec. 8. The NECPOC branch F staff made the blankets for patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.



The "Quilts for Broken Hearts" scrapbook and a few samples of their newest item, quilted holiday post cards, make up a display at the group's open house Dec. 4.



# Quilters still comforting troops

Story and photos by  
**MAJ WILLIAM MOTT**  
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

With fabric, scissors, needles and thread a group of Aberdeen Proving Ground quilters are still creating comfort in the form of quilts for the nations' wounded Soldiers.

The group known as 'Quilts for Broken Heroes' meets Mondays at the APG Chapel South in Edgewood. To date, they have donated more than 200 quilts to injured Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center including the 30 they delivered Dec. 6.

During an open house Dec. 4, Carol Hansen, the group's founder, debuted her quilted holiday post cards. The curious quilted post cards can actually be mailed but also can be used for tree decoration, stocking stuffers or collectable keepsakes.

"I used an online postcard template, backed the fabric and quilted it to the template and made about 20 of them for the open house," Hansen said.

An experienced quilter who owns more than 10 sewing machines, some of which are antiques, Hansen started 'Quilts for Broken Heroes' in her home two years ago then moved it to the chapel as it grew larger.

The group used the open house to display the imaginative, one-of-a-kind quilts bound for hospitalized Soldiers and to encourage quilters, experienced and novice, to visit and maybe join the group.

For more information on 'Quilts for Broken Heroes' or the quilted cards, e-mail Carol Hansen at cshansen@com-cast.net.

Visit **APG**  
**News**  
online at  
**www.**  
**apgnews.**  
**apg.army.mil**

# VFW goody boxes support APG Soldiers

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Mindful of American service members deployed around the world who are spending the holidays away from their families, the Ladies Auxiliary and members of Harford County Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5337 in Abingdon, pooled its resources to gather thousands of dollars in sundries, snacks, bare necessities and recreational items to send their way

and perhaps make their holidays a little brighter.

The effort brought more than 30 volunteers to the post, Nov. 30, all of whom were eager to help pack the 40 boxes containing about \$100 each in goods.

Linda McArthur, ladies auxiliary president, led the drive to support deployed members of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE), thanks to Col. Barry Lowe, the unit's chief of staff who is a member of the post.

"It means a lot to us to do this," McArthur said. "We hear from Soldiers all the time, telling us what they need or how much they appreciate what we've sent. If anyone out there wants to contribute all they have to do is come over."

VFW Post Commander Bob Gehr said that the project was an ongoing effort that began shortly after the Iraq War started in 2003.

"This is a fantastic effort that I've been involved with for the last three years," Gehr said.

He thanked the APG Post Office, particularly postal worker, Frank Bell, who is also a member.

"We get them packed, sealed and labeled and Frank transports them for us," he said.

Auxiliary members shopped at local stores, including the

Aberdeen Proving Ground Commissary and Post Exchange for everything from potato chips to DVD players for the goody boxes. In addition, several members donated movies.

"Everything is appreciated," said Ladies Auxiliary member Evelyn Lewis. "This is people who have been in the military

taking care of the military. It's not like back in World War II. Our [service members] are all volunteers and they are really saving our lives."

Lowe said that oh behalf of his unit, he was happy to "recognize these folks for supporting our Soldiers."



From left, Al Fidler, Pete Dogdan, Mary Hooper, Sue Elliott, Tammy Kenpisty and Evelyn Moore, pack 'goody boxes' bound for deployed Soldiers of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) at VFW Post 5337 in Abingdon Nov. 30.

## Holiday spirit of giving continues

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

General Physics continued its tradition of supporting Soldiers and their families with its annual holiday donation held at the Edgewood Conference Center Dec. 15.

The annual donation was started four years ago by former Sgt. 1st Class Dave Milton, a General Physics employee who retired from the 16th Ordnance Battalion.

Milton said that seven families and their children were served this year.

"This year we extended it out to the 143rd Ordnance Battalion," he said, adding that to date a total of 27 families and 65 children have been helped in the past four years.

General Physics employees presented the large, gift-wrapped bags to the family members, many of whom were unaware of the donation until the day before or that morning, as their commanders and senior leaders looked on.

"On behalf of all of our units, we appreciate what you do for our Soldiers and their families," said Lt. Col. Linwood Clark, commander of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

"We are honored to be able to do this," Karen Thorpe, General Physics program manager for environmental services told the Soldiers. "Thank you for what you do and for the sacrifices that you make for us."

"This is great," said Sgt. Chad Williams, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, as he and his wife Lisa, watched their children Billy, 8; Morgan, 4; and McKayle, 7, tried to peek through the gift wrapped bags.

"I didn't know anything until yesterday," said Sgt. 1st Class Karen Sykes-Morton, HHC 143rd, as she sat with her children Edward, 15; Odell, 12; Joi 10, Kofi 5, and Ciara, 3 months-old.

Also informed the day before, Spc. David Morant, HHC 16th, said the gifts would not be opened until Christmas.

"This was pretty nice but we'll wait for Christmas to unwrap them," He said, speaking for himself, his wife Melissa and 10 month-old son David Jr.

Joanne Fleming, General Physics administrative assis-

tant, spearheaded this year's drive, gathering volunteers, soliciting funds, etc.

"The units gave us wish lists and we took it from there,

she said.

"The Army has been real good to us for 15 years," Milton added. "This is a real good way for us to give back."

## FCC Angel Tree teaches children about charity



Photo by HEATHER TASSMER

From left, Donovan Enbanks, Mariah Bradley and Family Child Care Provider Ann Marie Bogues put decorations on the Family Child Care Angel Tree Dec. 5 at the Child and Youth Services building. The Angel Tree is used for decoration as well as charity, according to Bogues. Anyone from APG can choose the name of a "needy child" from the tree, buy a gift for the child and put it underneath the tree.

# LAW

## Recent tax law changes may affect people giving to charity--IRS offers tips for year-end donations

IRS

Individuals and businesses making contributions to charity should keep in mind several important tax law changes made last summer by the Pension Protection Act.

The new law offers older owners of individual retirement accounts a new way to give to charity. It also includes rules designed to provide both taxpayers and the government greater certainty in determining what may be deducted as a charitable contribution. Some of these changes include the following.

### New tax break for IRA owners

An IRA owner, age 70 1/2 or over, can directly transfer tax-free, up to \$100,000 per year to an eligible charitable organization. This option is available in tax years 2006 and 2007. Eligible IRA owners can take advantage of this provision, regardless of whether they itemize their deductions. Distributions from employer-sponsored retirement plans, including SIMPLE IRAs and simplified employee pension, or SEP, plans are not eligible.

To qualify, the funds must be contributed directly by the IRA trustee to the eligible charity. Amounts so transferred are not taxable and no deduction is available for the amount given to the charity.

Not all charities are eligible under this provision. For example, donor-advised funds and supporting organizations are not eligible recipients.

Transferred amounts are counted in determining whether the owner has met the IRA's required minimum distribution rules. Where individuals have made nondeductible

contributions to their traditional IRAs, a special rule treats transferred amounts as coming first from taxable funds, instead of proportionately from taxable and nontaxable funds, as would be the case with regular distributions.

### Rules for clothing, household items

To be deductible, clothing and household items donated to charity after Aug. 17, 2006, must be in good used condition or better. However, a taxpayer may claim a deduction of more than \$500 for any single item, regardless of its condition, if the taxpayer includes qualified appraisal of the item with the return. Household items include furniture, furnishings, electronics, appliances and linens.

### Guidelines for monetary donations

To deduct any charitable donation of money, a taxpayer must have a bank record or a written communication from the charity showing the name of the charity and the date and amount of the contribution. A bank record includes canceled checks, bank or credit union statements and credit card statements. Bank or credit union statements should show the name of the charity and the date and amount paid. Credit card statements should show the name of the charity and the transaction posting date.

Donations of money include those made in cash or by check, electronic funds transfer, credit card, and payroll deduction. For payroll deductions, the taxpayer should retain a pay stub, Form W-2 wage statement or other document furnished by the employer showing the total amount

withheld for charity, along with the pledge card showing the name of the charity.

Prior law allowed taxpayers to back up their donations of money with personal bank registers, diaries or notes made around the time of the donation. Those types of records are no longer sufficient.

This provision applies to contributions made in taxable years beginning after Aug. 17, 2006. For taxpayers that file returns on a calendar-year basis, including most individuals, the new provision applies to contributions made beginning in 2007.

The new law does not change the prior-law requirement that a taxpayer get an acknowledgement from a charity for each deductible donation (either money or property) of \$250 or more. However, one statement containing all of the required information may meet the requirements of both provisions.

### Holiday-season, year-end donations reminders

Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of the year count for 2006. This is true even if the credit-card bill isn't paid until next year. Also, checks count for 2006 as long as they are mailed this year.

Check that the organization is qualified. Only donations to qualified organizations are tax-deductible. IRS Publication 78, available online and at many public libraries, lists most organizations that are qualified to receive deductible contributions. The searchable online version can be found on [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) under, "Search

for Charities." In addition, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and government agencies are eligible to receive deductible donations, even though they often are not listed in Publication 78.

For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Schedule A can claim a deduction for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available to people who choose the standard deduction, including anyone who files a short form (1040A or 1040EZ). A taxpayer will have a tax savings only if the total itemized deductions (mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, etc.) exceeds the standard deduction. Use the 2006 Schedule A, available now on [irs.gov](http://irs.gov), to determine whether itemizing is better than claiming the standard deduction.

For all donations of property, including clothing and household items, get from the charity, if possible, a receipt that includes a description of the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation that includes a description of the property and its condition.

The deduction for a motor vehicle, boat or airplane donated to charity is usually limited to the gross proceeds from its sale. This rule applies if the claimed value of the vehicle is more than \$500. Form 1098-C, or a similar statement, must be provided to the donor by the organization and attached to the donor's tax return. See IRS Publication 526, Charitable Contributions, for more information.

## Walter Reed stops accepting 'Any Wounded Soldier' gifts

Packages sent to specific individuals will still be delivered

Story by

**LEO SHANE III**

*Stars and Stripes/Mideast edition*



Officials at Walter Reed Army Medical Center will stop accepting anonymous holiday gifts and cards for wounded patients there, citing administrative costs and security concerns.

All packages and cards delivered to "any wounded Soldier" at the medical campus will be returned to their senders with a note explaining the program change and suggesting other charities. The change was enacted in the past week.

Packages sent to specific patients won't be affected.

Center spokesman Terry Goodman said officials appreciate the donations, but staff simply cannot handle the distribution and monitoring of the packages. Last December, the hospital received more than 500,000 holiday packages and cards.

"A lot of that was not able to be delivered to the troops until weeks after the holidays," he said. "It's just too overwhelming."

Goodman said officials believe donors will understand the security and logistical reasons behind the decision, and hope it will not affect their generosity.

Program administrators are speaking with local charities about receiving some holiday donations for the wounded patients, but no decisions have been made.

The center's medical family assistance center will still distribute some donations both with patients in Washington and at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, he said.

Meanwhile, officials have offered a list of Web sites of other charities where donors can send their gifts:

- America Supports You charities: [http://www.americasupportsyoudonate.org/src/uso\\_donate.htm](http://www.americasupportsyoudonate.org/src/uso_donate.htm)
- To Our Soldiers: <http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/tooursoldiers>
- The Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>

Rules of what can and cannot be donated vary depending on the organization.

Maj. Gen. George Weightman, commanding general of the medical center, said in a statement that the hospital staffers "appreciate everything the general public has done to support our Soldiers."

Walter Reed has treated more than 5,400 patients from Iraq and Afghanistan over the last five years, about 1,700 of whom have been battle casualties.

## White House

*From front page*

Room.

Families from other regions around the country were also in attendance, for a total of approximately 75 children with about as many adults. Cookies and light refreshments were served in the State Dining Room, including frosted cookies in the shape of Scotty-dogs in honor of the First Family pets.

Although the Christmas decorations in all the party rooms were dazzling, one of the most spectacular was a gingerbread house built in the form of the White House.

High atop the gingerbread White House's roof was Santa in his sleigh with his reindeer.

About 10:30 a.m., guests were invited into the East Room where a small stage had been constructed. The children sat on the rug in front of the stage, while the President and Mrs. Bush sat on a small bench.

In his opening remarks, the President thanked all the children for their strength and reminded them that the service of their parents was important to this country.

The entertainment for the morning was a preview version of "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory." The full production version of this play opens at the Kennedy Center Family Theatre Dec. 23. Even in the shortened version, the play had the children enthralled with the music and dance.

"I just loved the music," said Caitlyn Wamack. "I especially liked the song from the boy who only wanted to watch television. That was hilarious."

After the play, Mrs. Bush left for another engagement but President Bush stayed to shake hands and pose for photos with the guests.

Too quickly, the party had come to an end and the families were on their bus trip back to APG.

But the memories of this amazing Christmas party will stay with everyone fortunate enough to have attended.

"Everything was so picture perfect," said Main as she took the driver's seat for the return trip to APG. "I want to share photos with everyone that went and make a scrapbook of this amazing day."

*(Editor's note: Read more about this White House Christmas reception at [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).*



Photo by RENEE MAIN, EDGEWOOD YOUTH CENTER  
President George Bush pauses for a photo with party guests Caitlyn, left, and Ann Wamack.

# Patriotic singer wins APG Talent Search contest

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

An American Soldier took the stage, sang the song "American Soldier" by Toby Keith then marched away with first place in the Aberdeen Proving Ground Talent Search held at the Edgewood Stark Recreation Center Nov. 18.

The first place winner, Pvt. John McLean, is from Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion. Second place went to Pvt. Brian Taylor, Company C, 143rd, who sang a gospel medley accompanied by Jeremiah Harris, Company B, 16th, on keyboard and Pvt. Latrice Bray, Company B, 16th, came in third after performing Yolanda Adam's "Yet Still I Rise."

Sponsored by Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the contest provides talent for the U.S. Army Soldier Show to which the winner receives an automatic recommendation.

McLean, who sang with great emotion and received a standing ovation, said he dedicated the song to his sister and all Soldiers.

"It expresses how I really feel," he said, adding that he soon will be headed to Fort Hood, Texas.

"I felt every bit of it because I know soon I'll be over in Iraq," he said.

A National Guardsman from Durham, N.C., Taylor said that "gospel music just inspires me."

"I feel blessed just to be in the military," he said, adding that he is planning a gospel album due to encouragement from family and fellow Soldiers.

Also headed to Fort Hood, Bray said she chose the inspirational song "because it means everything I've been going through."

She thanked her fellow Soldiers for their support and asked that they "continue to love and support each other."

The program judges included Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, U.S. Army Research,



The 2006 APG Talent Search winner, Pvt. John McLean, Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, raises his hat in response to the standing ovation he received after singing the song "American Soldier."

Development and Engineering Command; Spc. Nicole Lawrence, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representative; Charles Heinsohn, MWR programmer; Cardelia Lee, co-owner of the Ultimate Driving School in Aberdeen; and Shonda E. Rencher, Baltimore talent scout.

Alcivar presented the

awards at the program's conclusion.

He thanked the audience for their "enthusiasm" and praised the B.O.S.S. program.

"I am very impressed with the demonstration of talent tonight," Alcivar said. "This was entertainment from the Soldier for the Soldier. Remember B.O.S.S. when you get to your permanent duty



Spcs. Amanda Justice, 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), and Travis Bruyett, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, sing a song written by Justice.

stations. It will only make your time in the Army better."

The master of ceremonies was Sgt. Steven Lah, 389th Army Band (AMC's Own). Courtney White, a U.S. Army Environmental Center computer engineer, gave the invocation and Curtis L. Worsley, a Directorate of Information Management switchboard operator, sang the national anthem.

In addition, White and Worsley gave a guest performance, singing a duet of the song "If This World Were Mine" by Luther Vandross.

The Talent Search contestants included Spcs. Amanda Justice and Travis Bruyett; Pfc. Keyona Gainey, Herman Escobedo and Timothy Harless; and Pvts. Reginal Alfreus, Alyssa Lilua, Storm Pross, Nancee Cowell, Karlynn-Shac'on Joyner, Alicia Carlson, Stephen C. Romero-Williams, Douglas Kitchen and Marvin Parson.

## Magician fans in awe during Magictainment Show

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

A local entertainer brought his word-renowned Magictainment entertainment show to Aberdeen Proving Ground and wowed the audience at the Post Recreation Center Dec. 2.

David Breth charmed the audience of Soldiers, civilians and family members with card tricks, mind-reading demonstrations and witty humor, as he talked through each illusion.

He also used several volunteers, at one point pulling Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, APG and U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, from the audience for his "Egg and Scarf Trick."

An impressive illusion was when Breth displayed writing on tissue paper, tore the paper into pieces, rolled it into a ball, squeezed it together, then unrolled it, revealing its restored condition.

The crowd favorite was easily the disappearing act at the end when Breth handcuffed his assistant, Lindy, tied her up in a sack and placed her in a trunk then locked it on four sides. He then jumped on top of the trunk, pulled up a black curtain, covering himself from head to toe, and then dropped it, revealing not himself but his assistant Lindy, who promptly unlocked the trunk to reveal a sack in which a handcuffed Breth waited.



Dressed as superheroes, 'Chicken Nugget and Super Chicken' Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, left, helps Magician David Breth, right, with an egg and scarf trick during the Magictainment Show at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center Dec. 2.

"I thought it was good," said Pvt. Cory Jones, Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion. "It was really entertaining. I've seen some before but most of that was new to me."

Pvt. Mary Elizabeth Lopez, Company C 16th, said she enjoyed the entire show.

"I love it," she said. "I especially liked the part where he turned into a girl."

"I'm not a big fan of magic but it was pretty cool," added Pvt. Sharayah Guarriello, Company A 16th.

Post Shorts

Authorized exception to dual compensation laws

Current appropriated and nonappropriated fund employees are eligible to keep their full-time position and also be employed as a NAF flexible employee for the following hard-to-fill positions:

- Bartender, NA-7405-03
- Cook, NA-7404-04
- Cook, NA-7404-05
- Custodial worker (trainee), NA-3566-01
- Custodial worker, NA-3566-02
- Custodial worker (leader), NL-3566-02
- Food service worker, NA-7408-01
- Food service worker, NA-7408-03
- Food service worker, NA-7408-04
- Gardener, NA-5003-04
- Motor vehicle operator, NA-5703-07
- Operations assistant, NF-1101-01
- Recreation assistant (aerobic), NF-0189-02
- Waiter (trainee), NA-7420-02
- Waiter, NA-7420-03

To apply for the above positions visit Web site, <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> for job listing and <http://cpol.army.mil/library/naf/jobkit> to apply.

For more information, call 410-278-8993.

year and wishes all a happy and safe holiday.

Badging Office closes Christmas week

The Aberdeen South Badge Office will be closed Dec. 26 through 29 for all services due to employee use or lose leave.

APG North Badge Office will be open for normal business hours during this period, 410-306-2381/2383.

Education Center closes for the holidays

The APG Army Education Center and Colleges will close for the Christmas and New Year holidays, Dec. 25 through Jan. 1 and will reopen Jan. 2.

Thrift Shop closes until Jan. 18

The Thrift Shop will reopen Jan. 18.

The entire staff thanks everyone for their patronage throughout the year so that the community can be better served through donations from the shop.

Trial Defense Service relocates

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Trial Defense Service has relocated from building 310 to building 305 on the first floor. Enter through the glass door, turn left past the elevator and follow the corridor behind the conference room. The office is on the left.

Telephone numbers will remain unchanged. For more information, call Nora Farrell, paralegal specialist, 410-278-2156/5389.

Model Railroad Club holds open house

The model Railroad Club will be open to visitors 7:30 to 10 p.m., Dec. 21 and 28 in Aberdeen South, building E-5173 on Webster Road.

MLK observance planned for Jan. 11

The APG Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office and the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine will sponsor a Martin Luther King

Day observance, 8:30 a.m., Jan. 11, in the Starke Recreation Center, building E-4140.

Guest speaker will be Turhan E. Robinson, civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for Maryland. Breakfast will be served 7:25 to 8 a.m.; cost is \$2 per person.

For more information, call Linda Patrick, CHPPM, 410-436-1023.

NCOA holds Dining Out

The Noncommissioned Officer Academy will hold its 7th Annual Anniversary Dining Out Feb. 9 at the Comfort Inn Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood.

The anniversary will honor past NCOA commandants from 1987 to present.

Ticket cost is \$30 per person, and an RSVP must be received by Feb. 5.

Tickets will be on sale until Feb. 7.

For information and RSVP, contact June Conley, 410-278-8904, DSN 298-8904 or e-mail [june.conley@ocs.apg.army.mil](mailto:june.conley@ocs.apg.army.mil) or Spc. Calandra Guidry, 410-278-9127, or e-mail [calandra.r.stovall@us.army.mil](mailto:calandra.r.stovall@us.army.mil).

Mandatory Sexual Harassment training

The biennial Prevention of Sexual Harassment training for appropriated and non-appropriated fund supervisors and all other civilian employees serviced by the U.S. Army Garrison, Equal Employment Opportunity Office will be held at the Post Theater, building 3245, March 7, and Sept. 12, 2007 and at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810, June 6, 2007.

Supervisor training is scheduled 8 to 10 a.m. Employee training is scheduled 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Request for sign language interpreter must be coordinated through Roxanne Conley, 410-278-1100.

The training schedule is also available on the APG Garrison Intranet Homepage and the EEO Office Web site.

For more information, call Neslie Etheridge or Roxanne Conley, EEO Office, 410-278-1131/1100.

*(Editors Note: More shorts can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Shorts.)*

Community Notes

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23 HOLIDAY WRAP-UP

Create festive handmade wrapping papers using natural and recycled items for those last minute gifts. This program is for ages 10 to adult and costs \$5 per person. Registration is required. For information, registration or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 30 HISTORIC TOUR OF HAVRE DE GRACE

The Susquehanna Ministerium will sponsor the eighth annual Christmas Open House of historic Havre de Grace churches, 2 to 4 p.m. Open house is free and includes the First Baptist Church, Grace Reformed Episcopal Church, Havre de Grace United Methodist Church, St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Patrick's Catholic Church. St. Patrick's Catholic Church and hall will be open with refreshments served. Brochures are available at Tour Headquarters, Havre de Grace United Methodist Church, 101 South Union Ave., 410-939-2464, or the Havre de Grace Tourism and Visitors Center, 450 Pennington Ave., 1-800-851-7756.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 31 OPEN HOUSE AT THE

ESTUARY CENTER

Come and finish the year by spending time with the critics and staff at the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center. Drop in anytime from noon to 5 p.m. Enjoy a warm fire, hot cider and snacks. For more information or directions, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, extension 1688.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BULL AND OYSTER ROAST

American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17 located on 415 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, will hold a New Year's Eve Party Bull and

Oyster Roast, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. to benefit veterans programs. Food will be served 9 to 11:30 p.m. with music from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost is \$40 per person or \$70 per couple. Entertainment will be provided by Club 66. Menu includes pit beef and ham, oysters on half shell, sausage with peppers and onions, salads, vegetable and cheese trays, dessert, coffee, soda and draft beer. There will be a champagne toast at midnight.

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

FRIDAY JANUARY 7 BASKET BINGO

American Legion Post 194, 336 E. Main St., Rising Sun, is sponsoring a basket bingo to benefit Boy Scout Troop 28. Games start at 3 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 20 games. For more information call 410-658-3915, or e-mail [basket-bingo@zoominternet.net](mailto:basket-bingo@zoominternet.net).

*(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Community Notes.)*

Movies

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75

Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard To verify listing, call 410-272-9008, or visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) and click on "Movie Listing."

The Post Theater will be closed Dec. 29 and 30.

HAPPY FEET

Friday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.

Animated

In the great nation of Emperor Penguins, deep in Antarctica, you're nobody unless you can sing, which is unfortunate for Mumble, who is the worst singer in the world. He is born dancing to his own tune - tap dancing. Though Mumble's mom, Norma Jean, thinks this little habit is cute, his dad, Memphis, says it "just ain't penguin." Besides, they both know that, without a Heartsong, Mumble may never find true love. (Rated PG)

STRANGER THAN FICTION (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m.

Starring: Will Ferrell, Emma Thompson

Synopsis: One morning, a seemingly average and generally solitary IRS agent named Harold Crick begins to hear a

female voice narrating his every action, thought and feeling in alarmingly precise detail. Crick's carefully controlled life is turned upside down by this narration only he can hear, and when the voice declares that Harold Crick is facing imminent death, he realizes he must find out who is writing his story and persuade her to change the ending. (Rated PG-13)

LET'S GO TO PRISON

Saturday, Dec. 23, 9 p.m.

Starring: Dax Shepard, Will Arnett

Felon John Lyshitski has figured out the best way to get revenge on the now-dead judge who sent him to jail: watch the official's obnoxious son, Nelson Biederman IV, survive the clink. Lyshitski strikes gold when Biederman is wrongly convicted of a crime and sent to the pen he used to call home. He gleefully gets sent back to become Biederman's cellmate and to ensure that his new buddy gets the "full treatment." Let the games begin. (Rated R)

# Company C 143rd wins 2006 Commanders Cup trophy

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

They never came in second. They never came in third. Instead, the Soldiers of Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion shot straight to the top when they walked away with the 2006 Commanders Cup trophy which was presented to the unit during a ceremony at Hoyle Gym Dec. 12.

Col. Bobby A. Towery, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School’s 61st Ordnance Brigade, presented the award to 143rd Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Linwood Clark and Company C Commander Capt. Eric Brooks.

The unit won five of the 12 intramural sports offered during the calendar year, beating out second place Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion and the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, which came in third.

In addition, Staff Sgt. Darius Brewster, Company C 143rd, was named the Sports Representative of the Year.

This is only the second time the coveted prize had gone to an Advanced Individual Training unit.

“I was truly honored to be a part of this ceremony,” Towery said as he remarked on the unit’s accomplishment. He praised the unit drill and TAC sergeants and the garrison for its support of all OMMS units.

“We get great support from the Garrison and MWR, but I’m still excited to present this award to one of our own,” he said.

“I’m absolutely very proud,” Clark added. “We were always hearing about how we didn’t win. This feels good. We’re in the winner’s circle now.”

Brooks thanked the audience for “coming out this morning to recognize this outstanding achievement.”

Noting that the award recognizes a full calendar year of sports, he said, “This trophy is also about leadership and philosophy. It’s about NCOs taking time to establish a relationship with the Soldier and developing a cohesive being.”



Col. Bobby A. Towery, commander of the 61st Ordnance Brigade, left, and Lt. Col. Linwood Clark, commander of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, right, present the 2006 Commander’s Cup trophy to Capt. Eric Brooks, commander, Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, center, during a ceremony at Hoyle Gym Dec. 12.



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



# Holiday hours



ACTIVITY	THU 21-Dec	FRI 22-Dec	SAT 23-Dec	SUN 24-Dec	MON 25-Dec	TUE 26-Dec	WED 27-Dec	THU 28-Dec
ARTS & CRAFTS AA	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ARTS & CRAFTS EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ATHLETIC CENTER	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	CLOSED	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.
AUTO CRAFTS CENTER	11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
BOWLING CENTER	11 a.m.-10 p.m.	5 p.m.- 10 p.m.	1 p.m.- 8 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m.- 8 p.m.
ODR RENTAL CENTER	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
FITNESS CENTER AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
HOYLE GYM/FITNESS CTR	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	CLOSED	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.
MWR REGISTRATION	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
LIBRARY	11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER AA	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RUGGLES GOLF COURSE **	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	CLOSED	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
EXTON GOLF COURSE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
TOP OF THE BAY *	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

ACTIVITY	FRI 29-Dec	SAT 30-Dec	SUN 31-Dec	MON 1-Jan	TUE 2-Jan
ARTS & CRAFTS AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
ARTS & CRAFTS EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ATHLETIC CENTER	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	CLOSED	5 a.m. - 8 p.m.
AUTO CRAFTS CENTER	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
BOWLING CENTER	5 p.m. - 10 p.m.	1 p.m. - 8 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ODR RENTAL CENTER	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
FITNESS CENTER AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	5:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
HOYLE GYM/FITNESS CTR	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	CLOSED	5 a.m. - 8 p.m.
MWR REGISTRATION	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
LIBRARY	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
RECREATION CENTER AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
RECREATION CENTER EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RUGGLES GOLF COURSE **	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLOSED	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
EXTON GOLF COURSE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
TOP OF THE BAY *	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

\*NOTE: FACILITY IS OPEN FOR BOOKED CATERED EVENTS. \*\* NOTE: FACILITY OPEN WEATHER PERMITTING.



Activities

Winter leagues forming

Winter Bowling Leagues now forming. For more information, call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041 or visit [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com) for details.

SKIESUnlimited

For more information and registration for all SKIESUnlimited programs, call Central Registration. An additional \$18 Central Registration Fee will apply if not already enrolled in the Child and Youth Services Program.

For more information or to make an appointment to register, call 410-278-7479/7571.

Child and Youth Services

There are immediate full day openings for 3 and 4 year olds at the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center.

All active duty military and activated reservists, DOD civilians assigned to APG and Contractors assigned to APG are eligible for services. The Center is open daily, 6:15 to 5:30.

For more information, call

Central Registration at 410-278-7571.

**MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel is located in Building 3326. They may be contacted at (410) 278-4011/4907, by e-mail [mwr\\_registration@apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@apg.army.mil) or on the Web site, [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).**

Learn to salsa

Salsa Dancing lessons will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., from Feb. 6 through 21, Mondays at the Aberdeen Recreation Center Ballroom, building 3326. Salsa is the blend of essentially Cuban and Puerto Rican dance music. Learn the fast paced Latin dances which are popular today. These high-energy movements are perfect for the styles in use at most of the clubs frequented in the surrounding area.

NASCAR tickets for the Nextel Daytona 500

NASCAR tickets for the first 2007 NEXTEL Cup event, Feb. 17 and 18 are now available. Save over \$45 on a two-day ticket to the 49th Daytona 500 and the Daytona 300 NASCAR Busch Series race - just \$115. Pre-race/Nextel Fanzone passes are available for just \$75. Last day to purchase tickets is Feb. 2.

Chance-of-a-lifetime trip to Cooperstown, NY

MWR will sponsor a trip to the 2007 Baseball Hall of fame induction ceremony for Cal Ripken Jr. into the Baseball Hall of Fame, July 29. Cost is \$85 per adult and \$68 per child ages 12 and under (one child per each paying adult). Cost includes round trip transportation and admission ticket into

Cooperstown.

There are a limited number of seats available. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or for registration, call MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011, or e-mail [mwr\\_registration@apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@apg.army.mil) or visit [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

Discount tickets for military families at Medieval Times

In honor of military families, MWR offers discount tickets to medieval Times Dinner Theater and Show located in Hanover, Md. The cost of tickets for adults is \$40 per person, and \$34 for children. A limited number of tickets are available.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Services,t 410-278-4097/4011 or e-mail [mwr\\_registration@apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@apg.army.mil).

Tickets available for Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic

MWR Leisure Travel Services has tickets for Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic, Feb. 7 through 11, at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore.

Cost of tickets for ages two and up is \$17.25 each. Opening night tickets cost \$13.25 each. The last day to purchase tickets is Feb. 1. All DoD ID card holders are eligible to purchase tickets.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, call 410-278-4907/4011 or e-mail [mwr\\_registration@apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@apg.army.mil).

Comedy Explosion coming to APG

A Comedy Explosion and After Party event will be held 9 to 11 p.m., Feb. 3, at the APG Post Theater. Doors open at 8 p.m.

The show will feature comedians Andy Hayward, Antoine Blackman and Rich Carucci. Tickets for active duty military cost \$10, all others cost \$15.

An After Party will be held at the AA Recreation Center immediately following the show. Free entry with Comedy Show Ticket Stub or \$5. Open to permanent party and civilians only. Door prizes will be presented.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit or call MWR Leisure Travel and Tickets, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or Hoyle Gymnasium, building E-4210, 410-436-7134.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Sesame Workshop expands military families initiative

With more than 700,000 children of military families under the age of five separated from their mother or father this holiday season Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit educational organization behind Sesame Street, has responded with a program geared to address the challenges military families face with deployment. The half-hour television special, entitled When Parents are Deployed, will be hosted by Academy Award winning actor Cuba Gooding Jr., premiering Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 9 p.m. ET/PT on PBS. <http://newsblaze.com/story/20061204114303tsop.nb/newsblaze/TOPSTORY/Top>

New hours effective Jan. 2

**Recreation Center**  
**ABERDEEN RECREATION CENTER AND SNACK BAR, BUILDING 3326**  
Monday, closed; Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.;  
Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.  
Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 6 to 10 p.m.  
Saturday, noon to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 10 p.m.  
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 5 p.m.  
**EDGEWOOD STARKE RECREATION CENTER AND SNACK BAR, BUILDING E-4140**  
Monday and Tuesday, closed  
Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Snack Bar, 6 to 8:30 p.m.  
Friday, 6 to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 6 to 10 p.m.  
Saturday, 2 to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 2 to 10 p.m.  
Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 5 p.m.

**Leisure Travel Services**  
The MWR Leisure Travel Service located in building 3326 will be closed on Mondays. The office will be open Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Upon customer request, appointments for full service items will be scheduled.  
For more information, call 410-278-4907/4011.

**Sports, fitness facilities**  
**ABERDEEN ATHLETIC CENTER, BUILDING 3300**  
Monday thru Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**ABERDEEN FITNESS CENTER, BUILDING 320**  
Monday thru Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays  
Closed Friday preceding Monday holiday  
**HOYLE GYM, BUILDING E4210**  
Monday thru Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
For more information, call 410-278-3812.

Holiday sale at Ruggles Golf Course

The Ruggles Pro Shop is offering savings of up to 50 percent on golf and equipment specials thru Dec. 24, featuring gift certificates for lessons, daily fees and merchandise.  
Come by and grab some stocking stuffers at great prices for a favorite golf friend.  
For more information, call 410-278-4794.

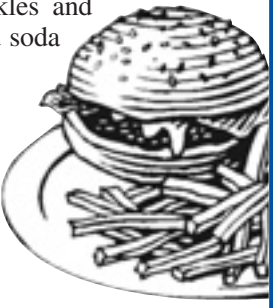
Amateur Boxing Night

Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host Amateur Boxing Night, 6 p.m. March 3 at Hoyle Gymnasium, 143rd vs. 16th . Doors open 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$10 for civilians and \$20 for front row seating. Admission is free for children six years of age and younger.  
Purchase tickets at MWR Leisure Travel and Tickets, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or at Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E4210, 410-436-7134.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of Dec. 18  
Special #1: Chicken filet club with cheese and bacon (choice of mayonnaise, tomato, pickles and onions), potato chips, one cookie and soda or \$5.75.  
Week of Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
No specials.  
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 am.



Fall fitness classes

Aberdeen and Hoyle Gym and Fitness Centers will hold fall fitness classes through Dec. 21.

**Aberdeen Fitness Center, building 320**  
**LUNCHTIME CLASSES, 11:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.**  
Monday, Step and Kick  
Tuesday, Fitness Yoga  
Wednesday, Body Sculpt  
Thursday, Chinese Aerobics  
**EVENING CLASSES, 5 TO 6 P.M.**  
Monday and Wednesday, Step

**Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E4210**  
**LUNCHTIME CLASSES, 11:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.**  
Monday, Step Aerobics  
Tuesday, Weight Aerobics  
Wednesday, Cardio Class  
**EVENING CLASSES, 5 TO 6 P.M.**  
Thursday, Yoga

Fitness classes cost \$5 per class or \$32 for unlimited classes through Dec. 21. Classes are open to all ID card holders, including DoD and contractors and their family members. Family members without ID cards must be registered by the ID card holding sponsor upon first visit.  
For more information, call 410-278-9725 or 410-436-7134.

# The new-aged Soldier—42-year-old recruit follows dream

Story and photo by  
**ANDRICKA THOMAS**  
OS&C

Twenty-four years ago, a new high school graduate and Junior Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corp cadet made a choice between his new wife and child and his dream of being a Soldier.

He chose his family. Now, at 42-years-old, he has finally fulfilled his dream.

Pfc. Russell Dilling, small arms/artillery repairer Advanced Individual Training student at the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, said it was time to live by the advice he’s given his children for the past 24 years, “Don’t live with regret.”

His regret died July 18, 2006, the day he “swore in” to enlist in the Army.

When the Army increased its maximum enlistment age to 42 in June, Dilling went directly to the recruiter.

Dilling’s son Jonathan Dilling, a reserve component Soldier with the 259th Quartermaster Battalion out of Denver, Colo., was sitting in a dining facility in Germany when he heard the news about the new age requirement. Knowing his father so well, he called his dad and asked when he was leaving for basic training without knowing that he had already gone to see a recruiter.

“I jumped right in, signed the contract, and thought about it later,” Dilling said. “I was in for about a month before I thought to ask how much I was going to get paid.”

“I expected my little brother to follow in my footsteps and join the military, but it’s a nice surprise that my father did too,” Jonathan said.

After 12 years working in computer repair and electronics, Dilling reached a point in his life where he knew it was time for a change; so he changed jobs.

Dilling became a quality inspector for an airplane company for about a year and a half, traveling 70 miles every-day to and from work. But this wasn’t the change Dilling was looking for.

“Although I took a pay cut by enlisting, I figure the amount I’m saving in gas should pretty much make up the difference,” Dilling joked.

Entrusting his San Antonio home to his sister, Rebecca, Dilling looks forward to his new life as a Soldier.

“I wanted to travel, I wanted change,” Dilling said.

Enlisting in the Army was a long sought-after personal goal for the Soldier. He said that there were a lot of things he didn’t get a chance to do when

he was younger, and now he has the chance to go after those things he missed out on.

But more importantly, his number one goal is to make his children proud.

A father of four, Dilling has two sons who are in the military, Jonathan, 21, and Robert, 19.

Robert is in training to be a combat medic at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

Jonathan joined active duty and now serves in the Army Reserve. Three years prior, Jonathan walked the same grounds at Aberdeen Proving Ground while training at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, just as his father is today.

“I consulted my son Jonathan about what job to pick that would give me the most mobility,” Dilling said. “I asked my son for advice, and that was a proud moment. I trust my kids.”

**Basic Combat Training**

Basic Combat Training was more than a challenge for the 42-year-old.

“I was out of shape and over weight,” said Dilling, who lost 35 pounds before he could get into the Army. “I didn’t want 35 pounds to hold me back from what I wanted to do.

“It hurt,” said Dilling of shedding the unwanted pounds.

He went through physical trials that many people his age may not have withstood. He knew there were physical requirements that needed to be met, but accomplishing those requirements was a result of his mental drive.

“It’s a mental drive that keeps you going,” he said. “I pushed through the physical pain and just kept going.”

The pressure of drill sergeants yelling at recruits did not affect Dilling or his spirit.

“I’ve been married twice, having a drill sergeant is not much different,” he joked.

Dilling said that having someone yell at you is insignificant in comparison to the big picture.

“Someone yelling at you in basic training is a small road block or speed bump compared to the greater mission of being in service, especially in light of all the hardships I’ve already seen,” Dilling said.

He said recruits should look inside themselves and find something that motivates and drives them mentally and physically.

Dilling feels his life experiences have given him an edge when going through the process of becoming a Soldier.

“As an older person, I’ve got the mental part licked,” he said.

**Advanced Individual Training**



*Pfc. Russell Dilling, right, small arms repair student at the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, helps Pvt. Christopher Goodlace assemble a MK 19 machine gun bolt. Goodlace said Dilling is helpful when he needs clarification on a task.*

After successfully completing BCT, Dilling moved on to AIT to learn the craft of small arms/artillery repair at the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

As an older student, Dilling doesn’t feel he is treated differently by the younger students.

“I feel like they’ve [younger Soldiers] accepted me; but they don’t talk to me as if I were an 18-year-old,” Dilling said. “They treat me with respect, as I do them.”

Dilling said being in training together, the younger students realize he is a kid at heart.

“I’m careful to not treat them as though I am a parent, but it’s hard,” he said. “It’s so difficult to not transition into parent mode, when I see the younger students do something silly.”

Dilling said that it’s hard for him to see young people meet someone and a week later, claim they are in love.

“I want to tell them so many things, but I’m just an old guy to them when I start talking in parent mode,” he said with a smile.

But the fact remains that, on some level, Dilling is treated differently by the students—in a positive way. Upon arriving to AIT, students are instructed to choose a class leader. Almost immediately, all students in Dilling’s class pointed to him.

“I didn’t have a choice to not take the lead when 10 of 12 people pointed to me,” he said.

Dilling is a father figure to many of the students in the class, as he is around the same age of most of their fathers, according to Marine Staff Sgt. Kevin Norwood, weapons instructor at the OMMS.

“When the younger Soldiers tell me I’m old enough to be their dad, I tell them, ‘You ought to give your dad a call and tell him to join,’” said Dilling. He feels someone his age brings a lot to the table with the maturity and knowledge they’ve developed over the years.

“Dilling shows us younger Soldiers if we put our minds to something, we can do anything,” said Pvt. Curtis Elrod, OMMS student. “I respect him, joining the military at his age.”

Students living far away from home, often for the first time, find comfort in Dilling’s age.

“When something goes wrong you can always talk to Dilling,” said Pvt. Darlene Carrasco, small arms repairer student. “He’s like the dad of the group. When I can’t get a hold of my parents, or anyone at home, Dilling is right there to talk.”

Humble, Dilling doesn’t feel qualified to give advice. He said he just wants the younger recruits to do well, just as he would want his own children to do well.

Students respect Dilling for his choice, although many were surprised.

“I think Dilling enlisting is inspirational,” said Pvt. Heidi Kenworthy, small arms repair-

er student. “He demonstrates an incredible amount of drive.” Kenworthy has been in training with Dilling since basic training at Fort Jackson, SC.

Dilling feels he has come a long way since the days before he was a Soldier. He feels physical pain pales in comparison to the self-confidence he’s gained since the start of his journey.

**The Way Ahead**

Dilling is expected to graduate from AIT Feb. 5, 2007. Looking toward the future, Dilling will enjoy his first tour in Fairbanks, Alaska, at Fort Wainwright. Being from smoldering San Antonio, he wasn’t keen on the drastic climate change.

“I expected to be stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan, both of which are hot, but when I found out I was going to Alaska, I thought, ‘Oh no, I’m going to arctic hell,’” joked Dilling. After researching his new duty station, he is now excited about the adventure.

Serving as an inspiration to many, Dilling doesn’t feel that he’s done anything special.

“I don’t feel like I’ve done anything super-special. I just did what I had to do to make my children proud,” said Dilling.

After his divorce, Dilling was there for his children, but felt he hadn’t accomplished anything to make them proud. Joining the service at 42 was the accomplishment he’d been looking to achieve.

“I just want my kids to be

proud to call me their dad,” Dilling said.

He taught his kids the value of serving in the military. He often told them “See the world, don’t sit back and hope for things to happen—make them happen.”

And that’s just what Dilling has done; he’s made his dreams come true. In this stage of his life, he said the most difficult thing about being in the military is the paperwork.

“There’s a form for everything,” joked Dilling.

He looks forward to a fruitful career in the military.

“I may stay for 20 years,” he said. “I will learn this job, then maybe another and another. I want to be versatile.”

Dilling feels proud to be associated with the military.

“The saddest thing for me is to know and hear some civilians speak bad about the military,” Dilling said. “It’s like they just said something negative about my sons.”

Dilling emphasized one thought, “We [Soldiers] give up our freedom so everyone else can have their’s [freedom].”

Dilling said being in the Army has changed him.

“Since basic training, my self-image and confidence has improved,” Dilling said. “After I finished basic I saw a picture of myself before I joined the Army and said ‘Who’s that old guy?’ Then I realized it was me.

“Now I see myself as 18-years-old, 10-feet tall and bullet-proof—I’m Army Strong.”

## Soldier

*From front page*

Next came the ‘Celebration of the Soldier’ video, a series of photos and film clips put to music and assembled by Kelly Smith, a NECPOC intern who said she took much of the footage from videos sent by her bother who is deployed to Iraq and from other friends who were deployed.

“It basically takes you on a journey from basic training to deployment and the return home,” Smith said. “It gives a sense of serving overseas and making the best of it.”

Several humorous portions of the video showed service members catching shut-eye wherever they could and finding different ways to relax, such as playing cards, listening to music and dancing. It closed with welcome home celebrations, all with the signature signs, ribbons, hugs, and of course, flags.

A group of young children followed. Each held up a letter spelling out the word ‘Celebrate’ and each child took turns telling who in the military they were proud of and why.

The NECPOC cheerleaders and cheer squad followed, belting out original cheers titled “NSPS” after the new civilian personnel system and the “Two Personnelists Cheer” for the troops in Iraq.

The highlight of the show came from special musical guests, the Morgan State University Drum Line, led by director of bands, Melvin Miles.



*Members of the Morgan State University Drum Line perform during the Eye on the Soldier program at the Aberdeen Recreation Center Oct. 14 receiving a standing ovation after both routines.*

Twirling cymbals and drumsticks, the drum line marched on stage and performed two songs while executing synchronized hand, feet and body moves to the delight of the audience, which clapped along and gave an enthusiastic standing ovation.

Miles thanked the audience and the NECPOC.

“We’re delighted to be here today,” he said. “Thank you for inviting us and thank you for being here.”

McGlothlin gave Miles and Montgomery ‘Partnership’ coins and recognized the show’s organizers and guests, particularly program manager Tami Matts and assistant program managers Tara Montgomery and Christina Bryant.

“You did a stupendous job, congratulations,” McGlothlin said before asking the NECPOC employees to stand and give a NECPOC salute to Soldiers as red, white and blue balloons fell from the ceiling.

Visitors and guests agreed the show was a success.

“It was very impressive,” Towery said. “Saluting our Soldiers goes back to our partnership with Harford County, the Northeast region and to the meaning of Army Strong.”

“From a leadership standpoint, it put tears in my eyes,” Slater said when asked about the Celebration of the Soldier video.

“I am so thrilled to see how the program unfolded,” Matts said. “It is very satisfying to see all of our hard work pay off. Everyone just pulled together and did a great job.”

“I think we all had fun,” Perkins said, adding that she thought the show had more laughter than previous shows.

“If you can make people laugh you can accomplish all kinds of things,” she said.



# ASAP addresses drunk and drugged driving issues

ASAP Office

The Army Substance Abuse Program continues its prevention education efforts with the first installment of articles focusing on drunk and drugged driving issues.

Definitions of Driving While Under the Influence, Driving While Impaired by Alcohol and/or Drugs, Blood Alcohol Content, Refusal to submit to field sobriety testing consequences, and standard type of field sobriety tests administered in Maryland are the focus of the first article.

Future articles will address Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration issues related to DUI/DWI charges, High BAC laws, young driver laws and new laws regarding multiply DUI/DWI convictions.

“To understand the drunk and drugged driving laws you have to begin at the beginning,” said Cynthia Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator.

Driving Under the Influence is having a BAC level of .08 or more. A BAC level of .07 or lower is considered DWI.

The effect of a breath test in Maryland has significant legal ramifications. If the result is .08 or more BAC, the driver is per se (by itself) under the influence. If the test result is .07 or more BAC, but less than .08, it is considered prima facie (sufficient in law to establish a case or fact) evidence the driver is impaired by alcohol. If the test result is more than .05 but less than .07 BAC, the test evidence is considered neutral. (But a driver could still get a DWI if he/she fails the field sobriety test.) If the test result is .05 or less BAC, the driver is presumed not to be under the influence of alcohol. Scott explained that a person stopped by police and being investigated as a possible drunk driver does not have to submit to field sobriety tests. However, those who refuse to take field sobriety tests are normally arrested and will have their driver's license suspended for 120 days, and the individual's refusal to submit to a breath or blood test for alcohol can now be introduced as evidence during court proceedings.

“What are field sobriety tests?” is a question that Scott is often asked.

“Maryland officers commonly administer three field sobriety tests that are approved by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the investigation of drunk driving cases,” Scott said.

The horizontal gaze nystagmus test [driver must follow an object an officer moves in front of their eyes] detects the involuntary jerking of the eye caused by consumption of alcohol. Throughout the one leg stand test, the officer is looking for putting the foot down, hopping, swaying, and raising the arms more than six inches. During the walk and turn test, the offi-

cer is looking to see whether the person started before the instructions were complete, was unable to stand with one foot in front of the other while being instructed, failed to touch heel to toe on every step, failed to stay on the line, stopped walking, raised arms more than 6 inches, took the wrong number of steps, or turned improperly. Once the officer has determined that there is sufficient evidence to charge the driver, tickets are issued.

Maryland has five different offenses that fall within the generic term, drunk driving, and as of October 2001, officers are required to write separate tickets for each offense.

The five offenses include: driving while under the influence of alcohol because of substantial impairment of normal coordination, driving under the influence of alcohol per se because of a test result of .08 or more, driving while impaired by alcohol, driving while impaired by drugs, or drugs and alcohol, and driving while impaired by controlled dangerous substances.

Drunk and Drugged Driving charges vary based on BAC level and other legal issues.

Scott developed the chart below to explain the various charges and penalties in a user friendly format.

Maryland Drunk Driving Charges and Penalties

Driving While Under the Influence (DUI)	0.08	Maximum 1 year in Jail	Maximum \$1,000	12
DUI and Transporting a Minor	0.08	Maximum 1 year in Jail & Referral to Child Protective Services	Maximum \$1,000	12
Driving While Impaired (DWI) by Alcohol and/or Drugs	0.07	60 Days in Jail	\$500	6
DWI and Transporting a Minor	0.07	60 Days in Jail & Referral to Child Protective Services	\$500	6
Homicide by Motor Vehicle While DUI .08 BAC Act of Negligence and Death Involved	0.08	5 years in jail	\$5,000	12
Homicide by Motor Vehicle DWI .07 BAC Act of Negligence and Death Involved	0.07	3 years in jail	\$5,000	12

There are many other factors which impact on the charges and penalties related to DUI and DWI.

The next installment of these articles will discuss High Blood Alcohol Concentration laws and multiply DUI/DWI convictions rules.

The Staff of the Army Substance Abuse Program, Jareta Coyle, ADCO, Bill Sanchious, EAPC, Cindy Scott, PC, and Judi Smith, IBTC, each wish every member of the APG family a joyful holiday season filled with healthy choices.

For more information, contact Scott at 410-278-3784 or e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@apg.army.mil.

# Impaired driving creates serious consequences

ASAP Office

Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real.

The tragedies and costs from drinking and driving impaired do not just end at the potential death, disfigurement, disability and injury caused by impaired drivers.

“Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be really significant and not the way you want to spend your holiday season,” said Cynthia Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator.

Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates and dozens of other unanticipated expenses from attorney fees, other fines and court costs, car towing and repairs, lost time at work, etc.

Plus there is the added embarrassment, humiliation and potential loss and consequence after informing family, friends and employers.

“So remember, this holiday season, ‘If you catch a buzz, catch a ride,’” Scott said. “Designate a sober driver before all holiday season and New Year's festivities.”

## Impaired driving is a deadly problem

• Impaired driving is one of America's deadliest problems. Nationally, in 2003, more than 17,000 people died in alcohol-related highway crashes. Hundreds of thousands more were injured.

• Every 30 minutes, nearly 50 times a day, someone in America dies in an alcohol-related crash. “This means you, your friends, your family are regularly at risk,” Scott said.

• According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about three in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives.

• Although national alcohol-related highway fatalities during 2003 declined slightly in for the first time in several years (down 3 per-



cent from 2002), there is still much more work to be done.

• Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. Impaired driving is no accident – nor is it a victimless crime.

• Since 1981, every president of the United States has proclaimed December “National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month” to help underscore the public's commitment to preventing impaired driving and promoting the use of designated drivers and sober ride programs.

• Legislators and law enforcement officials are becoming even more vigilant in combating impaired driving. The year 2004 marked the first year that .08 blood alcohol content laws have been enacted in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

• The month of December and the New Year's Eve holiday are also often highlighted by significant increases in state and local law enforcement efforts to combat impaired driving such as the use of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.



## LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail ron-damckinney@ usag.apg.army.mil.

### Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

James Addas	(benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	(kidney failure)
Sarah Blevins	Jeannette Dennis	Sandra Miller
William Bond	Marc Devecchio	Karen Moss
Debra Bonsall	Susan Gorhan	Trudie Norman
(daughter has brain tumor)	Hester Hayes	Mary Pettitway
Jeanie Bowman	Cathleen Holmes	Carol Piper
Kim Brooks	Rick Jernigan	Greg Pryor
Leroy Carter	Carolyn Johnson	Barbara Seker
Stephen Carter	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Joan Taeuber
Rogelio Chevannes	Lydia Langley	Alison Tichenor
Brett Christy	Joyce Mauldin	Christine Wheaton
John Daigle	Louis McCarter	Louis Winters
Shelia Davison		Charles Young

## Holy Day worship services

### Main Post (AA) Catholic

Dec. 24 Advent Eucharist	8:45 a.m.
Dec. 25 Christmas Eucharist	8:45 a.m.
Dec. 3 Eucharist	8:45 a.m.

Jan. 1 No service

### Main Post (AA) Protestant

Dec. 24 Advent worship	10:15 a.m.
Christmas Eve Candle Lighting	
Dec. 25 No service	10:15 a.m.
Dec. 31 Worship	10:15 a.m.

### Main Post (AA) Gospel

Dec. 24 Christmas worship	noon
Dec. 25 No service	
Dec. 31 Worship	10:15 a.m.
Dec. 31 New Year's Watch Night Service	10 p.m.

### South Post (EA) Catholic

Dec. 24 Advent Eucharist	10:45 a.m.
Dec. 25 Christmas Eucharist	10:45 a.m.
Dec. 31 No service	

### South Post (EA) Protestant

Dec. 24 Advent worship	9:15 a.m.
Dec. 31 Worship	9:15 a.m.

### Jewish services

Hanukkah, Dec. 16 thru 23  
Dec. 21, Lunch & Learn at the Main Post Chapel (AA) in the Fellowship Hall at noon  
Services also at Harford Jewish Center, 8 N. Earlton Road, Havre de Grace, [www.harfordjewishcenter.org](http://www.harfordjewishcenter.org)

### LDS Sunday worship services

Main Post (AA) 2 p.m.  
South Post (EA) 1 p.m.

# Wishing the troops happy holidays



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

*The helicopter piloted by Santa Clause and decorated by the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Fire and Emergency Services Division, glows brightly for the holidays. APG firefighters and emergency medical technicians, led by Fire Inspector Doug Farrington, provided the display for the community proclaiming holiday wishes for the troops. The helicopter is on loan from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory Air Base Range 6.*